

Cal Trans Culvert Replacement on Highway 70 Project

PALS 57274, 12/05/2019

The California Department of Transportation (Cal Trans) has submitted a request for a temporary special use permit for construction of replacement drainage facilities on Highway 70. Activities would require temporary work areas outside the existing DOT Easement. The culverts are past their useful life. Some are undersized and some will be placed with greater lengths or at adjusted elevations to improve control of water flow. This work will reduce the risk of Highway 70 in Butte County being shut down due to culvert failure, reduces the cost of maintenance on the highway, improves the safety of the traveling public, prevents resource and property damage, and protects watersheds.

Post mile 41.89: the existing 30-inches by 75-feet culvert repaired, a concrete liner, CIPP lining, or MSWPVDED would be applied to the interior of the existing culvert. Debris accumulated at the upstream end will be cleared. No work is proposed at the inlet including the historical fieldstone flume and outlet. RSP to be installed at the outlet. The new length will be 86-feet. Post mile 41.93: the existing 24-inches by 41-feet culvert including its associated inlet and outlet to be replaced. The existing culvert will be replaced through cut and cover. A new headwall will be installed at the inlet. RSP installed at the outlet. Once constructed, the new culvert inlet will be at a higher elevation. The new length will be 36-feet. Post mile 42.66: the existing 30-inches by 113-feet culvert including its associated DI and outlet will be replaced by a new 36-inches culvert. The existing culvert will be abandoned, portions of the existing culvert that would conflict with the new one will be removed. The new culvert will be placed through cut and cover. The DI will be replaced in-kind. A new junction box will be placed where the new culvert turns and upstream of where the culvert becomes a down drain. The culvert outlet will be placed to drain to the existing outlet location using a 90-degree elbow. The new length will be 120-feet. Work to complete the replacement will impact the existing retaining wall.

The project was entered into PALS and appeared on the Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA) on December 5, 2019. The project was presented to the public at the FRRD Collaborative meeting on December 11, 2019 and at the Butte County Forest Advisory Committee meeting on December 16, 2019.

The project is anticipated to have a decision in January, 2020 and implementation can begin after the decision. Please provide comments to Michelle Ahearn, michelle.ahearn@usda.gov or Clay Davis, clay.davis@usda.gov.